

Amendment to the Specification

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 13, within the Abstract in the Specification with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This An plant air distillation apparatus and method for producing oxygen, and/or nitrogen, and/or argon by air distillation, comprises industrial gases comprising: N(N>1) at least 2 cold boxes (2), each of which comprises, on the one hand, a heat exchange line exchanger (5) for cooling the air to be distilled and, on the other hand, an air distillation ~~apparatus~~ (4) unit; and means (3) for treating the air that feeds the air distillation apparatuses and optionally means for treating a fluid coming from the air separation apparatuses, these the air treatment means or the fluid treatment means comprising several items of equipment components mounted in parallel and networked with their inlets and/or their outlets connected to a common header (8,10,14,17,18) that collects or redistributes all of the air or of the fluid from the corresponding treatment step.

Figure 1. --